Summer 2003

Alabama Chess Federation Antics

The President's Letter
By Bill Melvin

This issue of Antics is being sent out to all USCF members in the State of Alabama. Here is what we hope will happen:

1 USCF members will recieve the Antics and think "Wow i want to keep up with chess happenings in my state, Ill join the ACF today.

2 USCF members will see the upcoming tournaments including the State Championship and think "Ill play in the big one this year"

Granted this wont happen, most will read our humble magazine, smile and continue on their merry way. Yet every member has an interest in chess and I just know that some of you have an itch to play.

How do I know this? Tom Mulikin! Who is Tom? Just someone I met through work around 1993. He used to play chess in High school and considered himself a chess player. He wasnt a USCF member, so i assumed he was just being polite. We long since parted ways.Then about a month ago, I got an email from Tom. He found my email address on the ACF website (http://www.cis.uab.edu/info/faculty/sloan/ACF). Tom was happy to announce he was trying his first USCF tournament. The tournament was a small one and I expressed an interest about the games. He sent them to me and I added some comments and returned them. Soon he was sending me games from his local club! Last weekend he drove to Wyoming from Colorado to play. A lot of chess for the first month. Now i am being inudated with games to analyze!

When the chess bug bites it bites hard. I am hopeful there are some Toms in Alabama. If you are a "Tom" we invite you to come out and play in particulary the State Chess Championships.

Tuskegee Open

April 26-27, 2003 * TU Campus * Tuskegee, AL

By: **Caesar Lawrence**

The 1st Annual **Tuskegee University Open** Chess Tournament was a surprising success. Jack Wilson, a graduating senior and president of the TU Chess Club, organized this event. The host site was the infamous Tuskegee University Campus – Student Union Ballroom. The city of Tuskegee may be most known for the Tuskegee Airman. The Black Fighter Squadron, that never lost a Bomber during WWII.

On this sunshine weekend, the university held the "Friends and Family" Open House. That meant free food for everyone and since we were their guests, we ate too. The tournament room was large enough to hold about 80 players and the chess play was very competitive. Although, no master rated players attended, the Class A rated players made up for their absence. The players came from Auburn, Opelika, Tuscaloosa, Birmingham, Mobile, Dothan, Enterprise and Montgomery, AL. One player came from Madison, Mississippi.

Overall 18 players came out to play. The two sections were merged into one section for play, with appropriate prizes for the Under 1600 rated players. The players that finished in the money are:

OPEN		RESERVE	
1st	Andy Reeder	1st	Carlos Matos
2nd	Scott Varagona		Eddie Koen
1st Class A	Zachary Kinney	Class D	Bryan Tillis
2nd Class A	Kenneth Goodman		Keenan Olson
	Caesar Lawrence		
	Thomas Lawry		
1st U1800	Douglas Stewart		
2nd U1800	Samuel Parks		

1st Annual Tuskegee University Open Cross Table * 26 –27 APR '03 * TD: Caesar Lawrence

Players	State	Pre-	Post	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1. Andy Reeder	AL	2104	2123	W-3	W-8	W-2	W-10	W-9	5.0
2. Scott Varagona	AL	1999	2015	W-6	W-9	L-1	W-4	W-10	4.0
3. Zachary Kinney	AL	1802	1820	L-1	W-11	W-16	D-13	W-8	3.5
4. Kenneth Goodman	AL	1892	1895	D-15	W-14	D-7	L-2	W-13	3.0
5. Caesar Lawrence	AL	1828	1824	H---	L-15	W-12	W-7	D-6	3.0
6. Thomas Lawry	AL	1817	1814	L-2	W-17	H---	W-15	D-5	3.0
7. Mark Liatti	AL	1942	1924	W-11	L-10	D-4	L-5	W-14	2.5
8. Jeffrey Wien	AL	1914	1903	W-18	L-1	W-14	D-9	L-3	2.5
9. Giles D'Souza	AL	1886	1877	W-16	L-2	W-15	D-8	L-1	2.5
10. Tim Bond	AL	1867	1870	W-17	W-7	H---	L-1	L-2	2.5
11. Carlos Matos	AL	1391	11426	L-7	L-3	H---	W-16	W-15	2.5
12. Eddie Koen	AL	0	1538/04	H---	L-13	L-5	W-17	W-18	2.5
13. Christopher Bond	AL	1915	1891	L-14	W-12	H---	D-3	L-4	2.0
14. Douglas Stewart	MS	1806	1796	W-13	L-4	L-8	W-18	L-7	2.0
15. Samuel Parks	AL	1374	1411	D-4	W-5	L-9	L-6	L-11	1.5
16. Bryan Tillis	AL	1375/05	1293/10	L-9	W-18	L-3	L-11	L-17	1.0
17. Andrew Morris	AL	1244/18	1235/23	L-10	L-6	L-18	L-12	W-16	1.0
18. Keenan Olson	AL	1198/24	1199	L-8	L-16	W-17	L-14	L-12	1.0

31st Annual Queen of Hearts

Chess Tournament * February 22-23, 2003 * Montgomery, AL

By: **Caesar Lawrence**

The 31st Annual Queen of Hearts Chess Tournament was held at the AUM campus, over the weekend of February 22-23, 2003. There were 42 players in the tournament. They came from Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida and Mississippi. The Montgomery Advertiser Newspaper covered the tournament. We were pleasantly surprised to see an article about the QoH 2003 on Sunday morning. Thanks, goes to Neil Probst – Metro Reporter.

The final results of the Queen Of Hearts (QoH) 2003 event are:

In the OPEN section:

1st Place: Todd Andrews, Nashville, TN won the event with 4.5 out of 5 points.
2nd Place, Expert and Class A was tied by 4 players with 3.5 out of 5 points - Thomas "Andy" Reeder, Tuscaloosa; Mark Liatti, Auburn; David Hater and Charles "Ray" Downs, both of Montgomery.
Top Class B and below (Under 1800) was won by Shanker Raman, Atlanta, GA with 3 points. The second Class B and below honors went to three players, each with 2.5 points: James Bowen, Montgomery; Miles Melvin, Huntsville and Douglas Stewart of Madison, MS.

In the RESERVE section:

1st and 2nd Place: A. Earl Whayne and John Aguero, both from Tallahassee, FL with 4.5 out of 5 points, took the top prizes. Top Class D was won by Samuel Parks, Montgomery and 2nd Class D winner was Daniel Long, Montgomery. The Top Class E honors went to Keenan Olson, Mobile, AL. Bryan Tillis of Dothan, AL won the Under 1000 & Unrated prize. Bryan entered the tournament as an unrated player and scored 3 out of 5 points. Keenan also scored 3 points in flight to winning the Class E honors.

The QoH tournament has been played for 31 years in Montgomery. AUM has been our home site for the last 20 years or so. We are very proud of AUM and its various sponsorship organizations for working with the Montgomery Chess Club and supporting our efforts to organize, teach and promote chess in Montgomery. A great many thanks goes to AUM! And a very special "thank you" goes to Dr. Rhodes Peele, Associate Professor - Math at AUM. Without his diligent leadership and stewardship, the Montgomery Chess Club would not be where it is today. Together, we are keeping chess alive in the greater Montgomery area.

Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to all of the chess players. Let's play chess...

Sincerely,

Caesar W. Lawrence
VP, Montgomery Chess Club
VP, Alabama Chess Federation

31st QUEEN OF HEARTS (QoH) 2003 - OPEN

#	PLAYER NAME	ST	PreRate	PstRate	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Total
1	TODD ANDREWS	TN	2330	2332	W-18	W-4	W-14	W-2	D-3	4.5
2	ANDY REEDER	AL	2100	2101	W-19	D-5	W-9	L-1	W-7	3.5
3	DAVID HATER	AL	2021	2028	W-16	L-9	W-15	W-6	D-1	3.5
4	RAY DOWNS	TX	1922	1938	W-12	L-1	W-16	W-9	D-5	3.5
5	MARK LIATTI	AL	1883	1919	W-17	D-2	W-8	H----	D-4	3.5
6	JEFFREY WIEN	AL	1847	1865	H----	D-8	W-13	L-3	W-10	3
7	SHANKER RAMAN	GA	1611	1673	L-9	B----	W-19	W-14	L-2	3
8	BILL MELVIN	AL	2215	2200	D-10	D-6	L-5	W-11	D-12	2.5
9	GILES D' SOUZA	AL	1888	1886	W-7	W-3	L-2	L-4	D-13	2.5
10	KENNETH GOODMAN	AL	1875	1874	D-8	D-15	D-11	W-16	L-6	2.5
11	DOUGLAS STEWART	MS	1776	1797	L-14	W-18	D-10	L-8	W-16	2.5
12	JAMES BOWEN	AL	1622	1671	L-4	D-19	D-17	W-15	D-8	2.5
13	MILES MELVIN	AL	1551	1574	X----	L-14	L-6	W-17	D-7	2.5
14	JOSEPH MARCRUM	AL	1950	1940	W-11	W-13	L-1	L-7	U----	2
15	THOMAS LAWRY	AL	1834	1813	H----	D-10	L-3	L-12	U----	1
16	ROSS SMITH	AL	1794	1768	L-3	W-17	L-4	L-10	L-11	1
17	ALMA VANDIVER	AL	1621	1594	L-5	L-16	D-12	L-13	H----	1
18	TIM BOND	AL	1882	1867	L-1	L-11	H----	U----	U----	0.5
19	ZACHARY KINNEY	AL	1847	1821	L-2	D12	L-7	U----	U----	0.5

31st QUEEN OF HEARTS (QoH) 2003-RESERVE

#	Player NAME	ST	PreRate	PstRate	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Total
1	John AGUERO	FL	1310	1429	W-21	W-9	W-8	D-4	W-6	4.5
2	Earl WHAYNE	FL	1299	1485	W-10	W-7	D-6	W-8	W-4	4.5
3	Samuel PARKS	AL	1253	1379	D-6	D-5	W-7	X----	W-9	4
4	Chad WILBANKS	AL	1400	1423	W-17	W-14	W-13	D-1	L-2	3.5
5	Jerome HOWELL	AL	1568	1534	L-12	D-3	D-10	W-19	W-14	3
6	William WORLEY	AL	1562	1535	D-3	W-18	D-2	W-17	L-1	3
7	John O'CONNOR	AL	1473	1444	W-16	L-2	L-3	W-20	X----	3
8	Daniel LONG	AL	1395/11	1398/16	W-19	W-15	L-1	L-2	W-17	3
9	Keenan OLSON	AL	1026/15	1194/20	W-11	L-1	W-14	W-12	L-3	3
10	Bryan TILLIS	AL	0	1375/05	L-2	W-19	D-5	D-15	W-22	3
11	James BODIFORD	AL	1377/05	1242/10	L-9	W-20	L-17	W-22	D-12	2.5
12	John SPANN	AL	1272	1265	W-5	L-13	W-22	L-9	D-11	2.5
13	Daniel VIGNES	MS	1334	1339	W-20	W-12	L-4	F----	U----	2
14	Jim GRIFFIN	AL	1304	1262	W-22	L-4	L-9	W-18	L-5	2
15	Robert RIEVES	AL	1298	1286	W-23	L-8	H----	D-10	F----	2
16	Andrew MORRIS	AL	1251/15	1244/18	L-7	W-21	W-18	U----	U----	2
17	Mason WILLIAMS	AL	1241	1232	L-4	W-23	W-11	L-6	L-8	2
18	Anthony ZHENG	AL	646/10	658/14	B----	L-6	L-16	L-14	D-21	1.5
19	Randall TEW	AL	1225/18	1197/22	L-8	L-10	W-21	L-5	U----	1
20	Timothy STALEY	GA	965	957	L-13	L-11	W-23	L-7	U----	1
21	Steven MAJOR	TN	876/12	838/17	L-1	L-16	L-19	D-23	D-18	1
22	Kevin WILLIAMS	AL	860/04	853/08	L-14	B----	L-12	L-11	L-10	1
23	Blake VANCE	AL	0	711/04	L-15	L-17	L-20	D-21	U----	0.5

LET'S PLAY CHESS...

********** GAO 2003 CHESS ANNOUNCEMENT **********

10th ANNUAL
GREATER ALABAMA OPEN
CHESS TOURNAMENT

August 2-3, 2003 at Maxwell AFB Community Center
(1154 Kelly St * Maxwell AFB * Montgomery, AL * 334-953-7370)

Details: 5 SS, USCF Rated, NC, NS, W, OSA

Directions to Montgomery, AL:
From I-65 (S), take exit 172 – Herron St. Stay in the left lane. Go through the light to Bell St. Turn left onto Bell St. Follow the signs to Maxwell AFB. From I-65 (N), take exit 172 - Clay St. Stay in the left lane. Due to one-way streets, you'll need to make a loop across Clay onto Herron, back to Bell St. Just follow the signs for the Maxwell AFB.

All non-military visitors will need to pre-register so that their names will be added to the visitor roster. Come to the Bell St. gate. Bring proof of vehicle owner, auto insurance and your driver's license! Pre-Register by email or U.S. mail with the TD!

PRIZES - ($$ b/40 Players)

OPEN SECTION (open to all)	
1st	$300
2nd	150
3rd	100
Top Class A	150
2nd Class A	75
Top U1800	100

RESERVE SECTION (open to U1600)	
1st	$200
2nd	100
Top Class D	100
2nd Class D	50
Top U1200	100
2nd U1200	50

Entry fee: $40
Make checks payable to: **Montgomery Chess Club**. Mail to:
Caesar Lawrence
- write your USCF ID number on check and state desired section.
- Must be Post Marked by: July 28, 2003 for Pre-Entry Fee.

Late Registration: 8:00 – 9:00 AM Sat., 2 AUG '03 → $5 More

Time Control (both sections): All Rounds: 35/90; SD/30

Round times: Saturday, 9:30, 2:00, 7:00 & Sunday 9:00, 2:00
Membership: USCF ($19/25/49) & ACF ($10) Req'd; OSA

Info: Caesar Lawrence

15 Minutes of Fame
or
Readers showcase

In this column, you, the Alabama Chess Player, are invited to send in your best games. An article about that game made you a Champion, earned you a higher rating class or national title should accompany it . Perhaps if you share your preparation techniques you may inspire others or re-discover yourself.

I have to admit, I have asked some real strong players to contribute and have got a couple of nibbles. Now, however, I open this column up to everyone who has had that one tournament victory, achieved the national ranking, beat an exceptionaly strong player, became a club champion to write it up and send it in. In other words, share with us your 15 minutes of fame.

I will begin with my 15 minutes. I know this will bring in lots of articles as no-one will probably want to see Petty Part II !

In 1996 Birmingham hosted the US Amateur South. Sixty One players from seven states partcipated in this fine event directed well by Walter Schaetzle. At the time I had been a mid level expert for many years before suffering some stumbling defeats at the hands of good players with fast time controls on their side. With this tournament approaching , I determined I would make a stand here. With 8 weeks to go I remember laying out a self assessment and training plan. My approach was to first compare games of when I was 2100 and my recent losses. There were some noticable differences in my middlegame play. I was failing to restrict my opponnents play and getting passive positions through improper evaluation of exchanges. I set out tochange this by going solitaire chess style with annotated games, studying Kotovs Think like and especially Play like a Grandmaster . I also dusted off countless old copies of Chess life and a couple of tactics books setting aside three days a week for tactical work. About a week before the tournament I brushed up on my openings. Then two days before the tournament I closed all the books and took a break. The program must have worked I scored 4.5 out of 5 to win the 1996 US Amateur South Championship. A game follows from that spirited contest.

□ **Petty**
■ **Richardson**

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.Nd5 Be7 4.Nxe7 Qxe7 5.g3 Nf6 6.Bg2 c6 7.d3 Na6 8.e4 Qd6 9.Be3 Nc5 10.Bxc5 Qxc5 11.Qd2 d6 12.Ne2 Bg4 13.0-0 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 a5 15.h3 0-0 16.Kh2 Qb6 17.Rab1 c5 18.f4 Nd7 19.f5 f6 20.g4 Nb8 21.Qe3 Qd8 22.h4 Nc6 23.Rg1 Nd4 24.Bf3 Kh8 25.Rg2 Rb8 26.a4 Qd7 27.b3 Qe7 28.Rbb2 h6 29.Bd1 Kg8 30.g5 hxg5 31.hxg5 fxg5 32.Rxg5 Qf6 33.Rbg2 Rf7 34.Qh3 Rd8 35.Rg6
Here Black realized he could not retreaet the queen since 35..Qe7 allows 36Rh6 Rf6
37Rh8+ Kf7 38Qh5+ g6 39Qf7 mate and if 36... g637Rh8+ Kf7 38 Qh7+ Kf6 39 Rxg6++
1-0

Questions and Opinions

In this column I am going to open up a few can of worms. I am hoping that the editor will recieve letters from the Alabama Chess player giving their answers or opinions.

1. Chess clubs throughout Alabama seem to suffer from shaky attendance , what can be done?
2. What has the internet done to Competitive chess?
3. Over the years (particularly aimed at the veteran player with 20+ years of playing experience in rated competition) what changes have you seen in the game, the nature and makeup of the average tournament player, and the changes in your local club activity
4. Have sudden death time controls particularly those in the first time control helped or hurt the game
5 Have you played more or less in the past year? What are your reasons either way

The First Battle

by Giles D'Souza

Sixty-three years to the day after German panzers swarmed through the low-countries to fight, what Alistair Horne would call, "The Last Battle," between Teutonic and Gallic tribes, Alabama's chess "tribes,' I mean clubs, gathered to fight "The First Battle," for bragging rights to the title of Alabama Team Champion. Birmingham, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa answered the call to battle; unfortunately, Auburn and Huntsville were unable to respond. The teams met in the Mortarboard room at the University of Alabama's Ferguson center, arrangements for which had been made by Bama Chess Club President, Eddie Koen.

In all twenty players in five teams of four showed up. The tournament had been organized on the assumption that at least six teams would participate over four rounds, playing at G/55. Rather than continue with the same format and give one team a bye, the resourceful Frank Myers suggested that teams of five be used, distributing the members of the fifth team among the other four, while keeping to the same time control. Thus, the need for a fourth round was eliminated, and players could go home two hours earlier, a result that met with everyone's approval.

The teams were as follows:

	The Central Alabama Chess Club (CACC)	The Druid Knights	The Knight Watchmen	The Latecomers
Board 1 (Elo)	Kirk Petty (1904)	Andy Reeder (2101)	Chris Bond (1923)	Ozgur Aktunc (1939)
Board 2 (Elo)	Jerry McGowin (1745)	Ravi Wijesundera (UNR)	Caesar Lawrence (1826)	James Schuermann (1772)
Board 3 (Elo)	Robert Bashinsky (1545)	Giles D'Souza (1886)	Zachary Kinney (1821)	Don Yessick (1487)
Board 4 (Elo)	Frank Myers (1445)	Chad Wilbanks (1423)	Samuel Parks (1379)	Eddie Koen (UNR)
Board 5 (Elo)	John O'Conner (1444)	Tony Zheng (697)	Andrew Morris (1244)	Bob Rieves (1286)
Average Elo	1617	1527/1659*	1639	1621/1605*

*The first average ignores the unrated players. The second average takes the provisional ratings, which was 2190 for Ravi (his last FIDE rating) and 1540 for Eddie.

Based on provisional ratings, the Druid Knights of Tuscaloosa were the favorites, followed closely by the Knight Watchmen of Montgomery. The two Birmingham teams, the CACC and the Latecomers, occupied the last two spots respectively. However, with only a 54 rating point spread between the first and the last team, in terms of average ratings, it was truly anybody's championship.

In the first round, the Latecomers almost made a clean sweep with 4/5 against the Knight Watchmen. Their only loss occurred on board 3, where Zach Kinney scored for his team. The Druid Knights won 3/2 against the CACC, where Jerry McGowin and John O'Connor scored for the latter. Thus, at the end of the first round, the Latecomers lead with four points, followed by the Druid Knights with three points, the CACC with two points, and the Knight Watchmen with one point.

In the second round, the two Birmingham teams clashed with the CACC dominating on the last three boards, sharing honors on the second board and losing on the first board, thus beating the Latecomers

31/2 - 11/2. In the other match, the Knight Watchmen and the Druid Knights tied with 21/2 - 21/2 with the former losing on boards 1 and 4, winning on boards 2 and 5, and sharing the point on board 3. Thus, at the end of the second round, there was a three-way tie for first place between the Latecomers, the CACC, and the Druid Knights, each with 51/2 points.

Just before the start of the third and final round, Chris Bond, Zach Kinney and John O'Connor had to leave. Thus the Knight Watchmen would concede two points to the team they played against, while the CACC would forfeit one. Since these two teams faced each other, the upshot was that the CACC picked up a point. They ended up by beating the Knight Watchmen 31/2 - 11/2, who picked up a point on the top board with a neat win by Caesar Lawrence over Kirk Petty. The other match was a real cliffhanger, since both teams were battling potentially for top honors, and the result on any board had the power to decide the final rankings. As it happened, the Latecomers beat the Druid Knights 3-2 with victories on boards 2 and 5, a loss on board 3, and draws on boards 1 and 4. Thus, the CACC won first place with 9 points, followed by the Latecomers with 81/2 points. The Druid Knights came in third with 71/2 points, and the Knight Watchmen were last with 6 points. So as of now, te newly formed Central Alabama Chess Club have bragging rights to the title of "Alabama Team Champion."

Board prizes 2-5 went to James Schuermann, Giles D'Souza, Chad Wilbanks, and Bob Rieves, respectively. Top board honors were shared by Andy Reeder and Ozgur Aktunc, who even drew their Blitz playoff. All $200 of the entry fees were distributed as prizes, which were reserved for the top two teams and the top scorers for each board. After the match, Ozgur Aktunc and James Schuermann teamed up against Andy Reeder and Chad Wilbanks for several exciting games of bughouse. All in all, most players had an enjoyable day, and several expressed the fervent hope that more team tournaments be organized in the Heart of Dixie. Given the ease of pairings in a team tournament, perhaps more tournament organizers will help meet this demand. If so, then this team tournament will be the "first" of many battles between the chess tribes of Alabama.

B95

□ **Wijesundara**
■ **Schuermann**
[Petty,Kirk]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 e6 7.Qd2 Be7 8.0-0-0 h6 9.Be3 Ng4 10.f4 Nxe3 11.Qxe3 Nc6 12.Qd2 Qc7 13.Nb3 b5 14.Bd3 Bb7 15.Rhe1 Rc8 16.f5 0-0 17.Qe3 b4 18.Ne2 exf5 19.exf5 Ne5 20.Nf4 Nxd3+ 21.Qxd3 Bf6 22.Re2 Be5 23.Nh5 a5 24.Nd4 Qb6 25.Nf3 Ba6 26.Qe3 Qb7 27.Red2 Ravi hasnt played competitive chess in years and was in time trouble in all his games
0-1

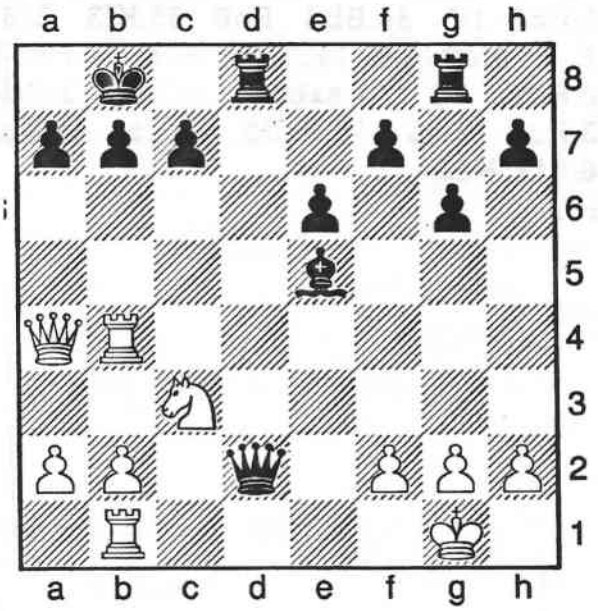
□ **Petty**
■ **Aktunc**

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nc3 d6 5.e4 e5 6.Nge2 Nc6 7.d3 Be6 8.0-0 Careless Thematic and best is Nd5 here-Ed **Qd7 9.Rb1 Bh3 10.d4 h5 11.d5 Ne7 12.Bg5 h4 13.Qd3** 13 gxh4 looks ugly but it is not easy to show it is unplayable. white gets fighting equality, where black must prove his attack is worth the pawn(i thought the weakened white squares and open g file too much compensatation for the privilige of an extra, doubled h pawn -ED) **hxg3 14.Qxg3 0-0-0 15.f4 Bxg2 16.Qxg2 Nh7 17.Bxe7 Qxe7 18.Qf2 b6 19.Nb5 Kb7 20.fxe5 Ng5 21.Kh1 Bxe5 22.Ng3 Rh3 23.Rg1 Bxg3 24.Rxg3 Qxe4+**
0-1

□ **Wilbanks**
■ **Koen**

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.Bc4 dxe5 6.dxe5 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 e6 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Re1 g6 10.Bxd5 Qxd5 11.Qf6 Rg8 12.Nc3 Qd8 13.Qf4 Qd4 14.Qf3 Bg7 15.Bf4 0-0-0 16.Rad1 Qb4 17.Rb1 Nd4 18.Qe4 Nxc2 19.Qxc2 Qxf4 20.Re4 Qd2 20.. Rd2 21Rxf4 Rxc2 22Rxf7 Bxe5 23Rxh7 Rf8 **21.Qa4 Kb8 22.Rb4 Bxe5** allows white to escape with a draw 22 Qd7! **23.Rxb7+ Kxb7 24.Qb5+ Kc8 25.Qa6+ Kb8 26.Qb5+**
½-½

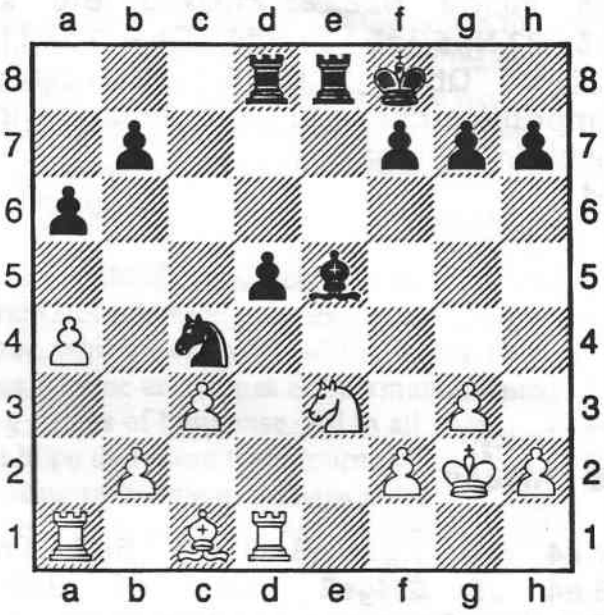
□ **Wilbanks**
■ **Koen**



□ **Aktunc**
■ **Reeder**

1.e4 c5 2.c3 e6 3.d4 d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Bd6 The text avoids 5..Nc6 6Bb5 Bd6 Doltmatov-Lobron Dortmund 1993 **6.Be2 Ne7 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.0-0 0-0 9.Nbd2 Nbc6 10.Nb3** This position has occurred in Chessbase 131 times both colors winning 37 games apiece The move chareacteristic of a Tarrasch french, **Bd6** was playued in 37 games both sides winning 11 times each **11.Nfd4** This move was found in only one game with white winning In 13 games Nbd4 was played with white winning 4 and black 3 **a6 12.a4 Ng6 13.g3 Bh3 14.Re1 Qf6 15.Bf3 Rfd8 16.Bg2** 16 Bxd5 may be too risky One possible line is 16..Bg3 17Bxf7+ Qxf718fg Rf8 19 Be3 Rae8 20Qe2 Nge5 21 Bf4 Nc422 Qf3 Rxe1+ 23 Rxe1 g5 **Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Nge5 18.Nf3 Nxf3 19.Qxf3 Qxf3+ 20.Kxf3 Ne5+ 21.Kg2 Nc4 22.Nd4 Re8 23.Rd1 Be5 24.Nf5 Rad8 25.Ne3** Can White win a pawn here The variation 26 Nd5 Nb6 27Ne3 Rd1 28 Nd1 seems to suggest so **Kf8 26.Nxc4 dxc4 27.Be3 Ke7 28.Bc5+ Ke6 29.Bb6 Rd5 30.Re1 Kd7 31.Rad1 Rxd1 32.Rxd1+ Kc6 33.Ba5 b6 34.Bb4 Re6 35.Kf3 Bf6 36.h4 h5 37.Rd2 g6 38.Rd1 Be7 39.Bxe7 Rxe7 40.Rd2 b5 41.axb5+ axb5 42.Rd4 Re5 43.Rd2 Rd5 44.Rxd5 Kxd5 45.Ke3 Ke5 46.Kf3 Kd5**
½-½

□ **Aktunc**
■ **Reeder**



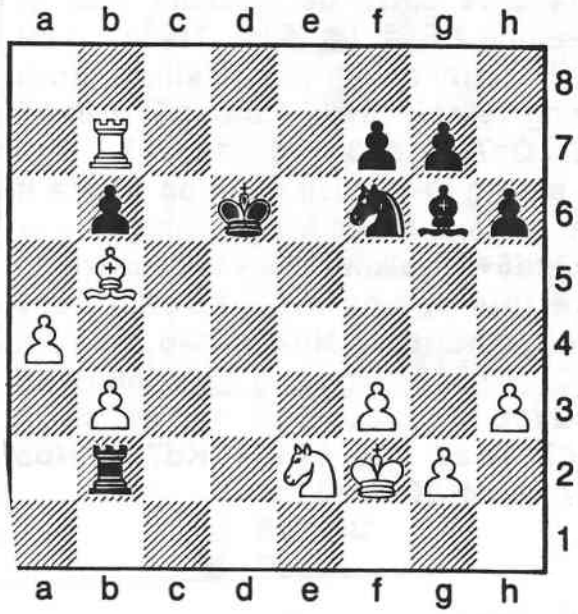
□ **Rieves**
■ **Zheng**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.B 0-0 6.f4 Nbd7 7.Nf3 Re8 8.0-0 e5 9.fx dxe5 10.dxe5 Ng4 11.Bg5 f6 12.exf6 B› 13.Qd5+ Kg7 14.Bxf6+ Qxf6 Ngf6 Kee white edge to minimum **15.Ng5 c5 16.R› Ndxf6 17.Qf7+ Kh8 18.Rf1 Be6 19.Nx** Thus the most junior player recieves a less fronm the most senior
1-0

□ **Kinney**
■ **DSouza**

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.e3 Nf6 6.Be2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.b3 b6 9.Bb2 Bb7 10.Rc1 dxc4 11.Bxc4 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.exd4 Qd7 14.Re1 Rfd8 15.Ne2 Rac8 16.Qd3 Bb4 17.Red1 Be4 18.Qe3 e5 19.h3 exd4 20.Nxd4 Qe7 21.Qg5 h6 22.Qh4 Ba3 23.Bxa3 Qxa3 24.Nb5 Qe7 25.Re1 Qb7 26.Qg3 Qb8 27.Qxb8 Rxb8 28.Nc3 Re8 29.f3 Bg6 30.Kf2 Kf8 31.Rcd1 Rbd8 32.Bb5 Rxe1 33.Rxd8+ Ke7 34.Ra8 Rc1 35.Rxa7+ Kd6 36.Ne2 Rc2 37.a4 Rb2 38.Rb7 diagr 1 38 g4 Rxb3 39Nf4 Ke5 40 Nxg6+ fxg6 41 Rg7 g5 42 Rg6 Rb2+ 43 Kg3 Nd5 44Rxh6 Nf4 45 Bf1 Rb1 46Kf2 Rb2+ 47 Kg1 **Nd5 39.Bc4 Kc6 40.Bxd5+ Kxd5**
½-½

□ **Kinney**
■ **DSouza**



□ **DSouza**
■ **Bashinsky**

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Be3 a6 4.Be2 d6 5.Nc3 b5 6.a3 Bb7 7.Qd2 Nd7 8.Nh3 Ngf6 9.f3 c5 10.Rd1 0-0 11.0-0 Qc7 12.d5 Nb6 13.Bh6 Rfc8 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Qg5 b4 16.Nb1 a5 17.c4 Ba6 18.Qc1 Re8 19.b3 Both Nf2 or Nd2 maintain equality **a4 20.Qb2 axb3 21.Qxb3 bxa3 22.Nxa3 Reb8 23.Qc3 Kg8** Lets White off the hook Na4! **24.Rb1 Rb7 25.Nb5 Bxb5 26.Rxb5 Ra2 27.Qe3 Rba7 28.Rfb1 Ra1 29.Qc1 Rxb1 30.Qxb1 Nfd7 31.Nf2 Na4 32.Nd1 Ndb6 33.Qb3 Ra6 34.Nb2 Qa7** Nxb2= **35.Nxa4 Nxa4 36.Rb7 Rb6 37.Rxa7 Rxb3 38.Rxa4**
1-0

□ **Wijesundara**
■ **Lawrence**

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0-0 5.Nf3 b6 6.Bd3 Bb7 7.Bd2 Be7 8.0-0 Nc6 9.Rc1 Nb4 10.Bb1 Ba6 11.Ne2 Nc6 12.Ng3 Re8 13.Re1 Bb7 14.a3 d6 15.Bc3 Nb8 16.e4 g6 17.Qb3 c5 18.dxc5 dxc5 19.Be5 Nc6 20.Red1 Qc8 21.Bc3 Rd8 22.h3 Rxd1+ 23.Rxd1 Qf8 24.Ne2 Rd8
0-1

□ **Koen**
■ **Myers**

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 d6 Fischers "bust" of the Kings Gambit **4.Bc4 h6 5.h4** There are 49 games on chessbase with this position. Both colors winning 19 apiece **f6 6.d4 g5 7.hxg5 fxg5 8.e5 Qe7 9.Nc3 c6 10.Qd3 Bg7** d5 sets up strong defensive position where it will be up to white to prove his gambit **11.Qg6+ Kd8 12.Qxd6+** allows Black to equalize In games like this pawns are of secondary importance perhaps 12 Ne4 would present problems 12..dxe513Nfxg5 hxg 14 Rxh8 Bxh8 15 Qxg8+ **Qxd6 13.exd6 Bg4 14.Ne5 Bxe5 15.dxe5 Nd7 16.e6 Ne5 17.e7+ Kd7 18.Nb5 Be6 19.Nc7 Nxc4 20.Nxa8**
0-1

□ **McGowin**
■ **Wijesundara**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.e3 Bg7 4.Bd3 d6 5.0-0 0-0 6.Re1 c5 7.c3 Nc6 8.Nbd2 b6 9.Ne4 Bb7 10.Nxf6+ Bxf6 11.Bd2 Qc8 12.d5 Nb8 13.c4 Bxb2 14.Rb1 Bg7 15.e4 Nd7 16.h4 h5 17.Qc1 Ne5 18.Nxe5 dxe5 19.Bh6 Qc7 20.Be2 Bc8 21.Bxg7 Kxg7 22.Bxh5 Rh8 23.Bf3 Rxh4 24.g3 Rh7 25.Qe3 Bh3 26.Bg2 Rah8 27.Bxh3 Rxh3 28.Kf1 Qd7 29.Ke2 Qg4+ 30.Qf3 Qg5 31.Rbd1 Rd8 32.Rh1 Rxh1 33.Rxh1 Rh8 34.Rxh8 Kxh8 35.Kd1 Kg7 1-0

□ **Reeder,2104**
■ **Petty,1900**

1.d4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 d5 5.c4 c6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nbd2 Nbd7 8.b3 Re8 9.Bb2 e6 Why not clarify the position with 9e5 10dxe5 Ng4 11 e4 dxe4 12Nxe4 Ngxe5 G Not playing well lately I decided to try to be very deliberate in my transitions by way of exchanges so I put my ownself in a passive modeTruth is you start out out a game with little confidence you are in trouble of easily getting passive **10.Rc1 Nf8 11.Re1 N8d7 12.h3 Qe7 13.e4 dxe4 14.Ng5 e3 15.Rxe3 h6 16.Nge4 Nxe4 17.Nxe4 c5 18.Rc2 cxd4 19.Bxd4 e5 20.Bb2 Rb8 21.Nd6 Rd8 22.Ba3 Nf6 23.Rd2 Ne8** ?? Qc7 wouldat least hold for a while No excuse for such a careless blunder
1-0

□ **Myers**
■ **Morris**

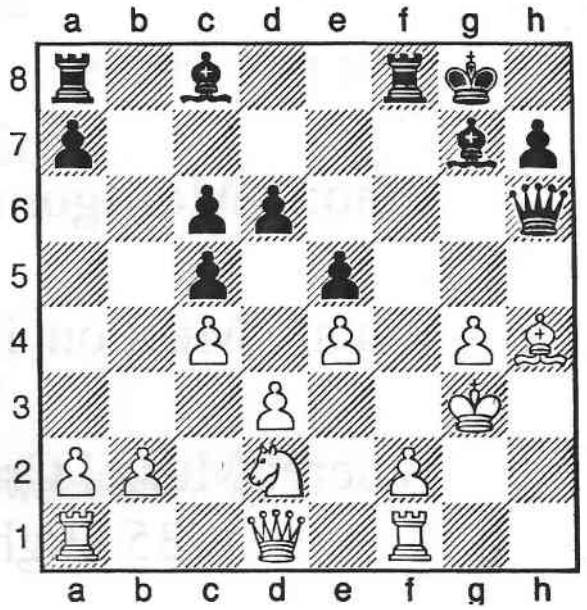
1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.h3 Bxf3 6.Qxf3 Nc6 6 c6 is key here for a solid Caro
kann set up After text White has a won game **7.Bb5 Qb6±** slightly better for White **8.Nd5 Qa5 9.Bxc6+ bxc6 10.Nf6+ exf6 11.Qxc6+ Ke7 12.Qxa8 Qe5+ 13.Kd1 Qc5 14.Re1+ Kd7 15.Qe8+ Kd6 16.Qxf8+ Kc6 17.Qxf7 Nh6 18.Re6+ Kb7 19.Qxg7 Qf8 20.Qxf6 Qxf6 21.Rxf6 Ng8 22.Rf8 Kc6 23.d4**
1-0

B31

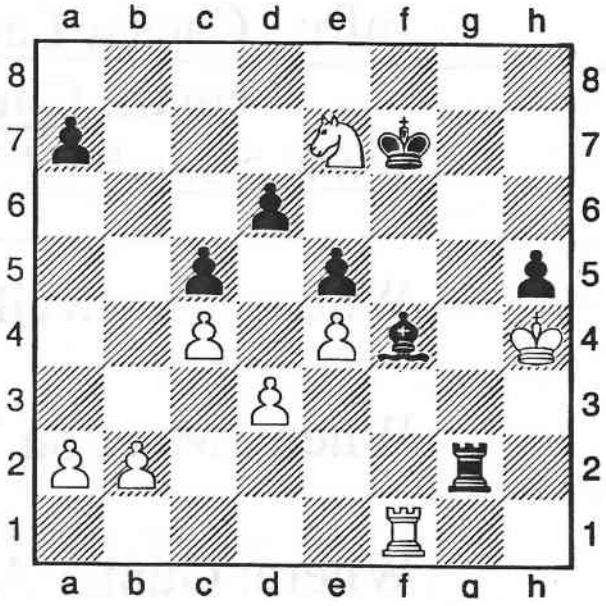
□ **Bond C**
■ **Reeder**
[Petty,Kirk]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 g6 4.0-0 Bg7 5.c4 e5 6.Nc3 Nge7 7.d3 0-0 8.Be3 d6 9.h3 f5 10.Nd5 f4 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 g5 14.Nh2 f3 15.Nxf3 g4 16.Bg5 Qe8 17.Nd2 Not appreciab;y better than the game is 17Nh2 gxh3 18g3 Rb8 19Qd2 Qg6 20b3 Rb7 **gxh3 18.g3 Qg6 19.Bh4 h2+ 20.Kxh2 Qe6 21.g4 Qh6 22.Kg3** diag 1 **Qf4+ 23.Kg2** Better is 23Kh3 h5 24f3 Bh6 25Nb3 hxg4 26fxg4 Qe3+_ 27 Kh2 Be6 28 Re1 Qf4+ 29 Bg3 Qg5 30Rg1 Rf7 31 Be1 Raf8 **Bh6 24.Nb3 Bxg4 25.f3 Bxf3+ 26.Qxf3 Qxh4 27.Qg3+ Qxg3+ 28.Kxg3 Bf4+ 29.Kh3 Rf6 30.Rg1+ Kf7 31.Rg4 Rh6+ 32.Rh4 Rxh4+ 33.Kxh4 Rg8 34.Rf1 Rg2 35.Na5 Kg6 36.Nxc6 h5 37.Ne7+ Kf7** diag 2 now white has togive up the exchange A master like example of exploiting poor harmony of piece positioning by Andy **38.Rxf4+ exf4 39.Nd5 Rh2+ 40.Kg5 f3 41.Kf4 f2 42.Ne3 f1Q+ 0-1**

□ **Bond C**
■ **Reeder**



□ **Bond C**
■ **Reeder**



LET'S PLAY CHESS...

Who: **Montgomery Chess Club**

When: Meet on Tuesday at 7PM*

Where: Muriel Crump Community Center
1735 Highland Ave.

What: Play chess, chess lessons for kids*, etc

Info: Caesar Lawrence

or

www.cis.uab.edu/info/faculty/sloan/ACF/events/

Who: **Maxwell-Gunter Chess Club**

When: Meet on Thursday at 7PM

Where: Gunter AFB Community Center

What: Play chess, chess lessons, tourneys, etc

Info: **Carlos Matos** or
www.knightwatchman.netfirms.com

"Club Chess the way it should be"

Who Central Alabama Chess Club

When Thursdays at 7pm

Where Bridge club 2112 Columbiana road

What USCF Rated tournaments one round a week at G/90

Info Kirk Petty

Home of the 2003 Alabama team Champions :)

WHO Birmingham Chess Club

When Tuesdays at 7pm

Where UAB LRC 1714 9th Ave south

What Lectures, quick chess and fun events

Info: Bob Rieves

Recent Games

By Bill Melvin

North Tennessee Winter Open January 18, 2003
Round 1 Board 4
Game/120 Sicilian Alapin (B22)
Matan Prilleltensky (1856) Bill Melvin (2200)

1.	e4	c5
2.	c3	Nf6
3.	e5	Nd5
4.	d4	cxd4
5.	cxd4	Nc6
6.	Nc3	Qa5

We're definitely out of book here. My 6th move was counting on white's position being awkward. I figured white wanted to play 7. Bd2 and couldn't. My analysis ran: 7. Bd2 Nxd4 8. Nxd5 Qxd5 9. Be3 (9. Bc3 Qe4+) Qa5+ and I would have successfully stolen a center pawn. I thought white would be forced to play a move like 7. Qd2, 7. Qd3, or 7. Ne2. All of these looked awkward.

7.	Bd2	Nd4
8.	Nf3	...

This move surprised me. I wanted to play 8. ... Nxf3 to exchange pieces, but I had little doubt that white would have ample compensation after 9. Qxf3 Nxc3 10. Bxc3 and it will be very hard for black to develop. My move aims to keep pieces on the board while I figure out how to develop.

8.	...	Ne6
9.	Bc4	Nb6?

Some games it is hard to find the losing move. This isn't one of them! I had to play 9. ... Nxc3 and grovel in a cramped position. Now I'm losing material.

10.	Nb5!	Nxc4

My queen is trapped. 10. ... Qa6 would have run into 11. Nd6+ and Bxa6. 10. ... Qa4 falls into 11. b3. My move at least gets two

pieces for the lady.

11.	Bxa5	Nxa5
12.	Nfd4	...

I have a really important decision to make here. This decision could determine whether I have a chance in the game or not. The decision is: should I resign! My position is utterly hopeless. Materially, I'm down a queen for two bishops and a pawn. Positionally, it is much worse. I have no development and white already has concrete threats. White is threatening Nxe6 followed by Nc7+ winning a rook. 12. ... Nxd4 offers white pleasant options of 13. Nc7+ and 13. Qxd4. I appear to have little hope of developing either bishop, either rook, or anything else. With a heavy heart, I decide to play on, guarding c7 in the most humble way possible.

12.	...	Kd8
13.	Nxe6	fxe6
14.	Rc1	Nc6
15.	Nd4	Ke8

Can I get some sympathy here? Is it too late to resign? Everyone who walks by the board makes a silly face, shakes their head, and walks away. My opponent is glowing. He is probably wondering who he will play next round. My position is so bad that I won't even accuse him of being over-confident. My hope is to put up some sort of a defense. I wouldn't call this a "plan", just a hope. Someone should write a book about "hoping" in chess. How about "Hope Like a Grandmaster?" Maybe, "Strategy, Tactics, and Hoping in Chess?" Never, mind, it will never catch on. Sad sad. It doesn't get much uglier than dropping your queen and then making a pair of desperate king moves.

16.	f4	g6
17.	O-O	Bg7
18.	a3	Rf8
19.	b4	a6
20.	Nxc6	bxc6

Now, both of my bishops are bad. All of my pawns are fixed on light squares. All of my opponent's pawns are on dark squares. My dark squares are weak on the queenside. All he has to do is break through and I can mercifully sign his scoresheet. For my part, I'm hoping to construct a fortress.

21.	Qd2	Bh6
22.	a4	Rb8
23.	Rc4	Kf7
24.	a5	Rb5

White hasn't done a very good job of exploiting his overwhelming advantage. I'm still lost, but it isn't so easy anymore. I have a bit of a fortress and there are no pawn breaks on the queenside for white. I was now starting to believe that I had a chance to hold.

25.	Rc5	Rb8
26.	g4	Kg8
27.	g5	Bg7
28.	Rf3	h5
29.	Rd3	Rb7

Now the kingside is sealed off too. Notice that I'm not even allowing white to sacrifice an Exchange on d7. I write down the clock times for the last time here. My opponent has 27 minutes for the rest of the game and I have 42 minutes.

30.	Rc4	Kh7
31.	Qc2	Rc7
32.	Rh3	Rf5
33.	Ra3	Bb7
34.	Qc1	d6!

If the position were to open up, those bishops could become very strong. White's king could even become vulnerable with all the advanced pawns. All of a sudden, white's queen and rooks are starting to look awkward. Black is now playing to win!

35.	exd6	exd6
36.	Qe3	e5
37.	h4	d5
38.	Rc1	Rxf4

The computer now prefers black and I agree. Black's bishops, rooks, and strong center pawns are more than a match for white's randomly placed army. This game is a textbook example of why it is important to always play with a plan. White didn't have one this game. He merely advanced his pawns, made short range threats, and hoped that the material superiority would prevail. Well, it didn't!

39.	b5	Rg4+
40.	Kh2	Rxh4+
41.	Kg1	Rg4+
42.	Kh2	d4
43.	Qd2	c5
44.	b6	Rc8
45.	Rg3	Rh4+
46.	Rh3	Rf4
47.	Rg3	c4

48. Re1 Rcf8
49. Qb4 Rf2+
50. Kg1 R8f7
51. Qxc4 e4
52. Qc5 e3
53. Qc4 Be5
54. Rgxe3 dxe3
55. Re2 Rf1 (mate)

0 - 1

Never give up!

North Tennessee Winter Open January 18, 2003
Round 2 Board 1
Game/120 Ponziani's Opening (C44)
Bill Melvin (2200) Peter Bereolos (2355)

1. e4 e5
2. Nf3 Nc6
3. c3 Nf6
4. d4 Nxe4
5. d5 Nb8

Both 5. ... Nb8 and 5. ... Ne7 are considered equal theoretically. Black also has the incredibly wild, complicated, and unclear 5. ... Bc5. Most people play 5. ... Ne7 although I'm sure Peter is well prepared for this line (we've played this opening before).

6. Nxe5 Bc5

Wow, here is a variation I had never seen before. Theory considers 7. Qg4 O-O 8. Qxe4 d6 with an unclear mess or 7. Nd3 Bb6 with equality. This was a new position to me, so I decided to threaten checkmate.

7. Qf3 Nf6
8. b4 Qe7
9. Qe2 Bd6

Ok, so 8. b4 looked pretty questionable. I hadn't considered the strength of 8. ... Qe7. Now, I'm losing the d-pawn and trying to get some compensation.

10. Nc4 O-O

Black coolly takes his time. I've got options like 11. Qxe7 Bxe7 12.

Ne3 or 11. Ne3, but I don't like being tied to the defense of weak pawns.

11.	Qxe7	Bxe7
12.	d6!?	cxd6

This pawn sacrifice was judged differently by each player. I thought my activity would be worth the pawn and my opponent thought it was just bad.

13.	Bg5	d5
14.	Ne3	d4
15.	Bxf6	Bxf6
16.	Nd5	Re8+
17.	Kd2	Bg5+
18.	f4	Bd8
19.	Na3	dxc3
20.	Kxc3	d6
21.	Nb5	Be6
22.	Nxd6	Rf8

Of course not 22. Ndc7 Bxc7 23. Nxc7 Rc8 and I lose a piece. Now, I really liked my position having regained the pawn with very active knights.

23.	Rd1	Nc6
24.	Nxb7	a5
25.	b5	Nb4
26.	Bc4	Rc8
27.	Kb3	...

Neither player backs away from the complications. On his website (http://bereolos.tripod.com/chess.html), Peter considered his next move to just lose a pawn without compensation.

27.	...	Bxd5
28.	Bxd5	Bf6
29.	Nxa5	Nxd5
30.	Rxd5	Rc3+
31.	Kb4	Rc2
32.	a4	Rb2+
33.	Ka3	Re8

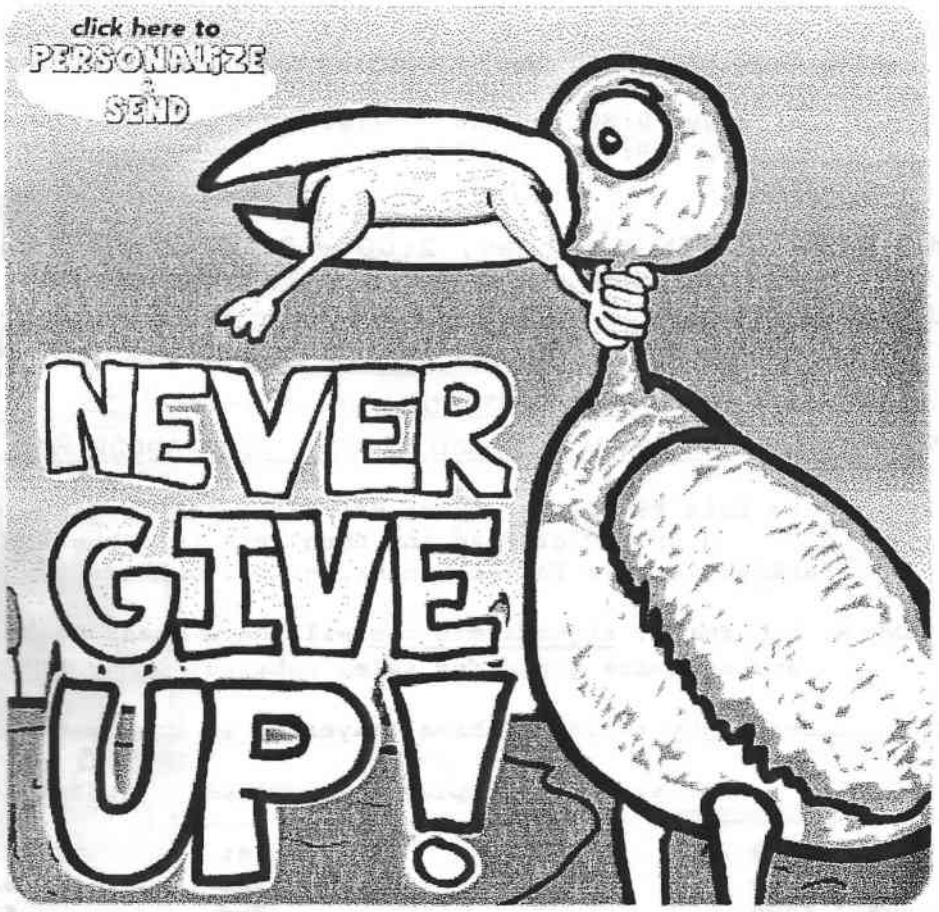
Mate in 1!

34.	Rhd1	h6
35.	Rd1d2	Rb1
36.	Nb3	Re3
37.	R5d3	Re4

38.	a5	Rxf4
39.	Rd1	Rb2
40.	R3d2	Rf2
41.	Rxf2	Rxf2
42.	Rd2	Rf4
43.	Re2	Bc3
44.	b6	Bb4
45.	Ka2	Bxa5
46.	Nxa5	Ra4+
47.	Kb1	Rxa5
48.	b7	resigns

1 - 0

Good job by Peter Bereolos making the game so close at the end. He was quite resourceful, but the b-pawn carries the day. After 48. ... Rb5, I had 49. Rb2 and the b-pawn would cost black his rook.



2003 Alabama Chess Championship
Labor Day Weekend - Montgomery, AL

2003 ALABAMA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP – CHESS TOURNAMENT
AUG 30,31 & SEP 1, 2003, at AUBURN UNIVERSITY-MONTGOMERY

USCF Rated, 6SS, 2 Sections, Time Control: 30/90; SD/30, NS, NC, OSA

ON-SITE REGISTRATION: $55.00 Sat., AUG 30th, 8:00-9:00 AM (If Needed)

PRE-REGISTRATION: Save $5.00 by mailing $50.00 entry fee by AUG 25th
To: **Caesar Lawrence**

Make check payable to: **Montgomery Chess Club** and include your USCF ID# and section (Open or Reserve) on the memo line.

AFFILIATIONS: USCF ($19/25/49) and ACF ($10-for Alabama residents) membership is required. Both can be purchased at registration. OSA.

ROUND TIMES: Saturday, 9:30 2:30 7:30
Sunday, 9:30 3:30
Monday, 9:30

ACF BUSINESS MEETING: Sunday, 2:00 – 3:15 (Elections)

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Caesar Lawrence
or Rhodes Peele
or ACF Website: http://www.cis.uab.edu/info/faculty/sloan/ACF/events/

DIRECTIONS: Take Exit #9 (Taylor Road) off I-85 near east Montgomery. Go North on Taylor Road and then left into the AUM campus. Parking is near Taylor Center (a.k.a. University Center).

CHESS VENDOR: Sig Smith will have Chess books, clocks and software games for sale. Website: www.sigschess.com

PRIZES (include Trophy to Top Alabama Player(s) in each section:

OPEN (to all)	(Based upon 60 players)	RESERVE (under 1600)	
1st	$400	1st	$300
2nd	$250	2nd	$200
Top Expert	$200	3rd	$100
2nd Expert	$100	Top Class D	$150
Top Class A	$200	2nd Class D	$100
2nd Class A	$100	Top Class E	$100
Top U1800	$200	2nd Class E	$ 75
2nd U1800	$100	Top U1000/UNR	$ 75

Alabamian Wins $6,000 at World Open

by Giles D'Souza

Did you know that an Alabamian won the World Open, Under 1400 section with a perfect score? Yes, Joe Marcrum, then of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, won the nine round under 1400 section of the World Open 1999 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and with it the $6,000 prize, which incidentally turned out to be the second highest individual prize for any section. Joe used to be a junior at the School of Communications at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Noted for his joviality, Joe would occasionally turn out to play skittles at Hale's Tavern. A keen student of opening theory, Joe plays with a style that can best be described as solid, but he is not afraid of entering into sharp opening lines. Here is a game from the World Open that Joe won with the Black pieces.

White: W. Aramil Black: J. Marcrum
World Open 1999, Philadelphia (U1400). Round 8.
Opening: Modern Benoni by transposition. ECO code A74.

1.d4 Nf6
2.c4 g6
3.Nc3 Bg7
4.e4 d6
5.Nf3 0-0
6.Be2 c5

This move typifies the Yugoslav variation against the fianchetto King's Indian, but is perfectly playable against other, including the classical, King's Indian set ups. Black signals his willingness to play a Modern Benoni or face a Maroczy Bind.

Diagram after Black's 6th move.

7.d5

Barden and Harding in "The Batsford Guide to Chess Openings," suggest delaying this advance until Black has played Nc6.

7... e6
8.0-0 exd5

Marovic and Parma in "An Opening Repertoire for Black," recommend delaying this exchange because it allows White, after the recapture cxd5, to make use of the thematic Benoni maneuver N-d2-c4.

9.cxd5 a6

After White's ninth move, 9...Re8 is also played. The position after Black's ninth is judged to be equal in NCO (1st ed.), where two Black continuations 10...Bg4 and 10...Nbd7 are given in response to White's next move.

10.a4 Re8

This move is suggested in MCO (13 ed.), where the continuation given is 11.Nd2 Nbd7, when Black's position is solid and the game may be considered equal, despite Black's difficulty in developing his light squared Bishop,.

11. Bd3?

As noted earlier, White should play Nd2, protecting e4, with the idea of using the f-pawn to secure e4, and thus freeing the Knight to complete the N-d2-c4 maneuver, eventually following with Bf4 to put pressure on d6.

11... Bg4!
12.h3 Bxf3
13.Qxf3 Nbd7

Black plays purposeful developing moves. The "threat" is Ne5.

14.Qe2?

But the "cure" is worse than the "disease." By voluntarily placing his Queen on the e-file, White is letting his pawn on e4 be pinned.

14... Nb6

Putting pressure on d5.

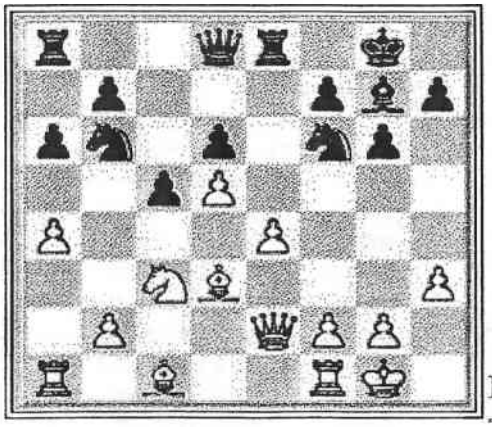


Diagram after Black's 14th move.

15.a5??

Instead of this oversight, White could have played either Be3, Bg5, Qc2, or Qf3, all of which Fritz 4.01 analyses to equality.

15... Nbxd5
16.Nxd5 Nxd5

And a hypermodern assault has destroyed a classical center!

17.Bc4 Nb4
18.Qf3

Unpins the e-pawn and threatens f7.

18... Qe7

Protects f7, but also puts pressure on e4, assuming f7 can be secured.

19.Bb3

Stops N-c2-d4.

19... Rac8

Note how all Black's pieces have been developed, whereas two of White's pieces are still on their original squares.

20.Ra4?

The purpose of this move is unclear. If White wants to challenge the Black Knight on b4, then 20.Bd2 was the way to proceed.

20... Rc7

Securing f7 so now the threat on e4 is real.

21. Re1

Protects the pawn on e4, but also lets it be pinned.

21... d5!

Superb exploitation of the pin on e4. Black now has a winning advantage.

22.e5

Joe said that during the game he felt that 22.Rxb4 cxb4 23.Bxd5 offered White the chance to put up tougher resistance.

22... c4!

Avoiding 22...Bxe5, after which White can complicate Black's winning process with 23.Bf4.

23.Ba2 Nd3
24.Rd1 Qxe5

Now, not only is Black two pawns ahead, but has a wonderfully posted Knight on d3 and mastery of the dark long diagonal.

25.b3

Threatening to undermine the Knight

25... Nxc1
26Rxc1 cxb3!
27.Rxc7 Qxc7

Now Black must lose his Bishop to prevent the back rank mate.

28.Bxb3 Re1# 0-1

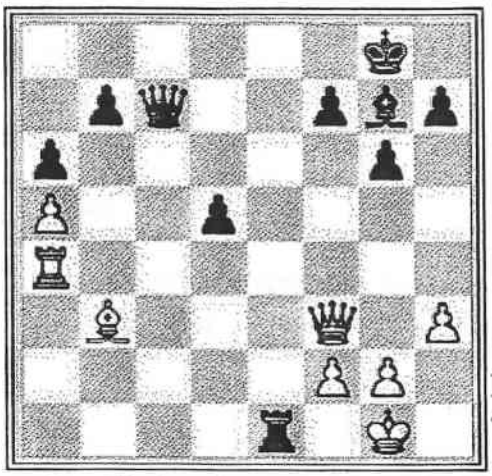


Diagram after Black's 28th move.

A well played game by Black. He developed his pieces with purposeful economy, and relentlessly took advantage of one or two of White's imprecise opening moves.

Joe is now based in Birmingham and drives a truck for a living. He wishes, don't we all, that he could spend more time for chess, but does manage to play in the odd tournament. He played in this year's Queen of Hearts, in Montgomery. He definitely makes it a point to play in the World Open, and his results since 1999 have been very good: 2000: 6.5/9 in the Under 1800, 2001: 7.5/9 in the Under 1800 section ($2,900), 2002: 6.5/9 in the Under 2000 section. If you go to the World Open this year, I'm sure you'll find Joe there. We wish him all the best.

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ENT Kirk Petty

Alabama State Chess Champions

By Bill Melvin (updating Bobby N. Edwards from February 1997)

Here is a list of the Alabama State Champions from year to year starting in 1954. This information has been kept by Bobby N. Edwards for many years. It was last published in 1997 and is being updated as a historical record.

Year	Champion(s)	Hometown(s)
1954	Gordon Bates	Birmingham
1955	???	???
1956	Brad Gambrell	Birmingham
1957	Ken Williamson	Mobile
1958	???	???
1959	???	???
1960	Dr. Rodney Baine	Birmingham
1961	Brad Gambrell	Birmingham
1962	Milan Momic	Leighton
1963	Milan Momic	Muscle Shoals
1964	Brad Gambrell	Birmingham
1965	Gordon Bates	Birmingham
1966	Milan Momic	Muscle Shoals
1967	Marty Appleberry	Huntsville
1968	Charles Cleveland	Birmingham
1969	Milan Momic / Charles Irvine	Muscle Shoals / Huntsville
1970	Charles Irvine	Huntsville
1971	Don L. Whaley	Birmingham
1972	Ken Williamson	Huntsville
1973	Charles Irvine	Huntsville
1974	Charles Irvine	Huntsville
1975	Elias Antonas	Tuscaloosa
1976	Steve Hudson	Birmingham
1977	Dr. Fredrich Bittner	Mobile
1978	Robert Jurjevich	Bay Minette
1979	Steve Hudson	Birmingham
1980	Steve Hudson / Joe Jurjevich	Troy / Bay Minette
1981	Kyle Therrell	Fairfield
1982	Stuart Rachels / Kyle Therrell	Birmingham / Fairfield
1983	Stuart Rachels / Tom Denton	Birmingham /

		Mobile
1984	Stuart Rachels	Birmingham
1985	Stuart Rachels	Birmingham
1986	Stuart Rachels	Birmingham
1987	Tom Denton / Kyle Therrell	Mobile / Midfield
1988	Mark Walton	Hoover
1989	Joe Jurjevich	Bay Minette
1990	Bill Melvin	Huntsville
1991	Hisham Sunna / Charles Meidinger	Tuscaloosa / Madison
1992	Kyle Therrell / Bill Melvin / Charles Meidinger	Birmingham / Huntsville / Madison
1993	Scott Godfrey	Madison
1994	Charles Meidinger	Madison
1995	Bill Melvin / Kyle Therrell / Andrew Whatley	Huntsville / Birmingham / Montgomery
1996	Brent Inman / Rhodes Peele	Mobile / Montgomery
1997	Bill Melvin / Andrew Whatley	Huntsville / Montgomery
1998	Bill Melvin	Huntsville
1999	Matt Puckett / Andy Reeder	Huntsville / Tuscaloosa
2000	Bill Melvin	Huntsville
2001	Bill Melvin	Huntsville
2002	Joe Jurjevich / Charles Meidinger / Scott Varagona	Bay Minette / Huntsville / Birmingham

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